

I know I could have never built a national business by doing this over 37 years. It is like in business. People always ask you: How did you get there? I will tell you how I got there: patience, perseverance, hard work, reinvesting every penny I made, borrowing money only when it made sense. And it wasn't for a nicer corporate headquarters. My office was in a mobile home for 17 years. I appreciated low overhead.

When you do things like that, great opportunities come your way. To all the people who come here from Indiana every week somehow connected with the Federal Government wanting more, my advice to them is hedge your bets. If you are dependent on an institution like this that just is so stubborn and will not correct itself, this trajectory will lead to a bad day somewhere down the road that our kids and grandkids will deal with.

I think the other side of the aisle does drive a lot of this mentality that the Federal Government should do more regardless of what it costs.

The income tax occurred about right back in here. That became a source of revenue for the Federal Government that we pretty well disciplined ourselves with, until we got to right here, when entitlements and the mandated spending took over the dynamic of our Federal Government.

We have everything on auto pilot here where you can't even discuss it. From Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security, and interest on our debt to about another 10 to 15 percent that we have moved from discretionary to mandatory—another gimmick here—it is only 30 percent of the budget that we can deal with. Senator LEE talked about it.

All of that we know, and all I am asking leadership and the President, when we do win in 2020—because I think we will, because anybody that is proposing ideas like the Green New Deal, Medicare for All, free college tuition, and getting rid of college debt is only going to add fuel to the fire—is that we as fiscal conservatives are going to have to be heard, and leadership and the President are going to have to hear us.

Even though it is not going to happen this time, we shouldn't be afraid to talk about it, because everyone else in our country—households, school boards, businesses, and State governments—does. That is because they have the common sense to live within their means, not loot the bank in the present and shovel all these troubles onto future generations.

I yield the floor.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

• Ms. HARRIS. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent but, had I been present, would have voted no on roll-call vote No. 228, the confirmation of

Wendy Williams Berger, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

Mr. President, I was necessarily absent but, had I been present, would have voted no on roll-call vote No. 229, the confirmation of Brian C. Buescher, of Nebraska, to be United States District Judge for the District of Nebraska.●

#### INTERFERENCE WITH ELECTIONS ACT

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I would like to speak about the Prevention of Foreign Interference with Elections Act, which I introduced in June.

The bill is cosponsored by all 10 Democratic members of the Judiciary Committee, plus Senators MARKEY and SMITH. This bill is necessary because we know foreign actors are working to influence our elections. The Mueller report showed us how Russia interfered in 2016, and we can expect it to happen again in 2020. The bill's goal is to provide enhanced criminal penalties to prevent foreign interference in our elections. The bill makes five changes to current law in order to accomplish that.

First, it explicitly makes it a crime to work with foreign nationals to interfere in U.S. elections.

Second, the bill prohibits Americans from helping foreign nationals funnel illegal contributions or donations into U.S. elections.

Third, the bill expands restrictions on foreign-financed election ads. Notably, it restricts foreign-financed issue ads and foreign-financed digital ads.

Fourth, the bill creates a civil action so that when the Attorney General learns of foreign interference, the Justice Department can immediately get an injunction.

And fifth, the bill modifies immigration law so if a non-U.S. citizen is convicted of interfering in our elections, they would be inadmissible into the United States.

Unless we take action, Russia or another foreign power will interfere with our elections. It is not a question of if, it is a question of when.

We need to make clear that such interference will result in criminal punishment, and we must update our election laws to combat these new cyber attacks.

This bill accomplishes both. Thank you.

#### 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF "APOLLO 11"

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 50th anniversary of the moon landing and New Hampshire's role in this important moment of history.

On July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin completed their 13th orbit around the Moon and fired up the descent engine on the now-historic *Eagle* Apollo Lunar Module. With pilot Mi-

chael Collins staying behind in the command module, *Columbia*, these American heroes, with the entire world watching and backed by a whole generation of scientists, engineers, and specialists supporting them on the ground, began their initial descent to be the first humans to set foot on another planetary body.

What many Americans may not know is that as both pilots began their historic descent, critical New Hampshire-made technology was helping them along the way. Sensors made by RdF Corporation in Hudson were a part of the lunar module propulsion system guiding them to the lunar surface. RdF sensors were also on their spacesuits as they took that first giant leap for mankind.

RdF, which continues to support the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, NASA, as it looks to return to the Moon and then Mars, is just one of the many innovative small businesses in the Granite State that have played such a critical role in our country's space program.

For example, the Saturn V rocket program, which launched the Apollo crews to the Moon, benefitted from a state-of-the-art computerized system which was developed at Sanders Associates in Nashua, now a part of BAE Systems. HaighFarr in Bedford has been in business for over 50 years designing complex antennas for the space program and has played a significant role in our Mars lander and rover programs. Mikrolar, in Hampton, manufactures high precision positioning systems and is a critical piece of the James Webb Telescope, which will be the successor to the Hubble sometime in the next decade.

The fact is that New Hampshire's pioneering and innovative small business community has been a mainstay in the aerospace community for decades and remains so today. As the ranking member on the Appropriations Subcommittee that oversees and funds NASA, I am supportive of NASA's efforts to get us back to the Moon and eventually Mars, particularly because I know Granite State businesses will be leading those efforts.

It is not just the private sector in New Hampshire that has stepped up to keep us competitive in science and space. It is also our educational community. The University of New Hampshire, UNH, is a key contributor to NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, which has been in orbit around the Moon since 2009. The New Hampshire Space Grant Consortium, which includes nine Granite State affiliates, including UNH, Dartmouth, and our very own McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, is focused on educating our future scientists and space technicians.

A true accounting of New Hampshire's role in space would not be complete without calling attention to two of our State's most impressive space-faring heroes: Alan Shepard and Christa McAuliffe.

Alan Shepard was from Derry and is better known to the rest of the world as the first American in space. His historic 1961 Mercury flight paved the way for the Apollo missions to the Moon. I am also reminded that, as the commander of the follow-on *Apollo 14* mission, he also became the first human to golf on the Moon's surface.

Christa McAuliffe's legacy as an advocate for her students and for science education continues to inspire to this day. New Hampshire and the entire country are proud of her pioneering efforts. Earlier this month, the entire U.S. Senate honored that legacy and passed my legislation authorizing the U.S. Mint to produce a commemorative coin in her honor.

As we continue to celebrate these American achievements, we also celebrate the New Hampshire businesses, institutions, and people who helped make that possible and remember the pride Americans everywhere felt that day.

I also hope that the 50th anniversary of the Moon landing will serve as a wake-up call to all of us, a statement of the great things our country can do when we stand united, working together, and focused on a common goal. We need more of that today. I hope we will look to heroes like Christa McAuliffe, Alan Shepard, and the *Apollo 11* crew as we rededicate ourselves as a nation to achieving the impossible.

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL 158

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 100th anniversary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 158 from Green Bay, WI. The original charter of Local 158 was filed on June 6, 1919.

IBEW Local 158 occupies a storied place in the history of organized labor in northeast Wisconsin. Electrical workers in Green Bay began organizing for better wages and working conditions as early as 1902. By 1919, the workers had a committed core of electrical workers and filed the charter to establish a chapter of the IBEW on June 6 of that year. On June 17, 1919, the Local held its first meeting at the home of Brother August Verheyden. The Local increased its influence and magnified its voice by joining other groups advocating for workers and their families. In 1921, IBEW Local 158 joined the State Federation of Labor, the Green Bay Labor Council, and the Green Bay Building Trades.

Construction of paper mills and powerplants in the Fox Valley created steady employment for IBEW members. Their experience was especially important when the call for skilled labor went out during World War II to help build ships for the U.S. Navy. After the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, the Navy rapidly began building low-cost cargo ships called Liberty

Ships, as well as smaller torpedo patrol and submarine chaser boats. Members of IBEW Local 158, along with their brethren from Local 1012 at the Leatham D. Smith Shipbuilding Company in Sturgeon Bay, stepped up to this challenge and contributed to the successful U.S. war effort.

IBEW Local 158 continued its significant contributions to the Green Bay economy and community through its work on Green Bay's City Hall, which opened in 1957. That same year, the Local celebrated its contribution to the completion of the Lake Michigan pipeline and the new City Stadium, home of the Green Bay Packers.

In the early 1970s, Local 158 merged with three other Wisconsin IBEW organizations: Local 751 in Manitowoc, Local 1012 in Sturgeon Bay, and Local 1235 in Marinette, making Local 158 a stronger, more diverse and financially sound Local in the Brotherhood.

In recent times, the skills and expertise of Local 158 members are on display at nearby nuclear power stations, paper mills, shipyards, and hospitals. In 2003, IBEW contributed to the significant renovations at Lambeau Field, a landmark we in Wisconsin like to refer to as the "8th Wonder of the World."

IBEW Local 158, however, is known for far more than its economic achievements. Its members also deserve recognition for their significant contributions to their community through generous charitable initiatives. In addition, its advocacy on behalf of family supporting wages has helped build the strong middle class Green Bay enjoys today.

On this important day, marking 100 years of outstanding service to its members, its union, and its community, I heartily congratulate IBEW Local 158 on its successful advocacy on behalf of working families, and I wish its members continued progress for the next 100 years.

#### RECOGNIZING THE FREEPORT FLAG LADIES

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to three great patriots, three inspiring women, from the town of Freeport, ME. Their names are Elaine Greene, Carmen Footer, and JoAnn Miller. They are known by our men and women in uniform, veterans, and grateful citizens throughout America as the Freeport Flag Ladies.

On September 11, 2001, an act of terror transformed a beautiful Tuesday morning into a day of unfathomable horror. Three days later, President Bush asked grief-stricken Americans to step outside their homes with lighted candles in memory of the heroes of 9/11 and of the nearly 3,000 innocent men, women, and children who perished.

Living on a secluded road, Elaine, Carmen, and JoAnn instead took their candles and an American flag to busy Main Street. Their location quickly began a rallying point for all of Free-

port, the site of a spontaneous, heartfelt memorial service.

Then they did something even more remarkable. They made a promise to stand with their flags on Main Street each and every Tuesday morning between the hours of 8 and 9, to mark the day and time of the attacks.

This coming September 11th will be their final vigil. When that day comes, they will have kept their promise for more than 900 consecutive Tuesdays, in rain, sleet, and snow, in bitter cold and in blistering heat. Carmen, the youngest of the three at 74, says their "retirement" is due solely to the fact that "Age wins, all the time."

For the past 4 years, the Freeport Flag Ladies have been joined each Tuesday by Darlene Jolly and frequently by Elaine's sister, Amy Gove.

They have kept their promise, and they have done so much more. From 2002 to 2016, they spearheaded a wonderful 9/11 tribute in Freeport. They have regularly made the long drive to Bangor International Airport, to join the legendary Maine Troop Greeters, and to Pease International Airport in New Hampshire, to meet the members of our Armed Forces as they head overseas or return home. They have greeted thousands of soldiers, and they are remembered by them all.

They have made a special effort to reach out to those who serve our country and to their families. Thousands of photographs of outbound troops have been sent back home, and families receive a weekly message. They have sent packages of games, magazines, and food to troops overseas. Parcels to combat support hospitals contain clothing and special pillows to make the transport of wounded soldiers more comfortable. They have funded these amazing efforts themselves, with yard sales, growing and selling "Flowers for Freedom," and donations.

Describing what Elaine Greene, Carmen Footer, and JoAnn Miller have done falls far short of putting into words what the Freeport Flag Ladies mean to our country. Perhaps the best words were spoken by Elaine: "Freedom shines on America, so let us shine for America." The Freeport Flag Ladies shine brightly, and their light will continue to inspire us all. Their prayer to be of service was answered with a mission to commemorate, to honor, and to remember. They are among those throughout our Nation who transformed one of America's darkest days into one of our finest hours.

Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the Flag Ladies of Freeport, ME, who will soon retire from their unwavering efforts to commemorate the heroes and the victims of the life-changing events that occurred on September 11, 2001. Every Tuesday since that day—for 18 years—the Freeport Flag Ladies have stood on Main Street in Freeport in our Nation's colors waving our Nation's flag. First standing to honor the lives lost in the 2001 attacks, these ladies have